

## REMARKS

### Status of the Application

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the position set forth in the outstanding Office Action mailed March 4, 2003. Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. Per the Office Action mailed March 4, 2003, claims 1-6 stand as rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Applicants have amended the claims to have the term "drier" changed to "dryer" so that the claims are in conformity with the specification.

### Objections By The Examiner

The Examiner has objected to Applicants' amendment of February 19, 2003 under 35 U.S.C. §132, asserting that new matter has been introduced into the disclosure, in that the limitation of the surface treatment agent spraying directly and only to the surface of the drum; and the limitation of the paper strip not being stained by the release agent are not supported by the original disclosure. Specifically, the Examiner cites:

- 1.) Amended claim 1, line 7, recites "and wherein the paper strip is not stained by the release agent".
- 2.) Amended claim 1, line 4, recites "directly" and "only".
- 3.) Amended claim 4, line 14, recites "wherein the paper strip is not stained by the oil".
- 4.) Amended claim 4, line 4, recites "directly" and "only".

Applicants respond that amended claims 1 and 4 do not contain new matter, and therefore, such amendments should be entered and considered by the Examiner.

Support for the term "directly" is found in the specification on page 14, line 27 through page 16 as well as Figures 2, 4, 5 and 6. Figure 2 illustrates several drum

dryers (C1), the path of the paper strip through a dry portion of the paper machine, and the path of the canvas (C2, C3) for pressing the paper strip against the dryer surface. As set forth in the specification on page 16, paragraph 2, the object of the present invention is obtained by spraying the surface treatment agent onto the surface of the drum dryer (C1), facing the paper strip, which is referenced in Figure 2 as the sites denoted by X and Y. Figures 4-6 are schematic illustrations showing the various states in which the surface treatment agent is sprayed. As is clearly shown in these Figures and described by the specification on pages 14, 15, and 16; the surface treatment agent is sprayed directly to the surface of the drum dryer and the agent is not sprayed anywhere in the vicinity of the paper strip, specifically to avoid the problems associated with its contamination. Thus, the amendment of the term "directly" into claims 1 and 4 does not constitute new matter.

Applicants hereby make no admission as to the term "only" being new matter, instead Applicants believe the present invention is clearly and properly set forth as amended herein.

Support for the phrase "wherein the paper strip is not stained by the oil" is found on page 7, lines 21-25, where the specification sets forth that "...if the supply rate exceeds 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> per min, dripping of the surface treatment agent containing the oil occurs, causing oil stains on paper to emerge, and resulting in contamination of peripheral equipment." Additionally, support is realized in view of the Examples, particularly those for Embodiments 1, 2 and 3 in relation to Comparative Example 3, line 26-31. Comparative Example 3 specifically states the observation of oil stains on the paper strip when the oil supply rate was 630 mg/m<sup>2</sup> per minute, however, in the Embodiment 1, 2 and 3 Examples there is no mention of the appearance of any oil stains on the paper strip. It is clear by the observation made in Comparative Example 3 that oil stains were being checked and recorded, and therefore, the lack of any such observation for the Embodiment 1, 2 and 3 Examples of the present invention provides the necessary evidence that no oil stains were found on the paper strip. Thus, amending claims 1 and 4 to include the language "wherein the paper strip is not stained by the oil" does not constitute new matter.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103**

Claims 1-6 stand as rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent 3,014,832 (Donnelly).

Applicants respond that the Examiner is incorrect in his assertion that "[s]oiling or contamination of the web, however, is not a concern of the present invention as originally disclosed." Clearly the present invention deals with the prevention of contamination of the surface of a drum dryer, yet the quality of the paper web is also an issue. The quality of the paper produced by the paper machine is at least partially dependent upon the condition of the surface of the drum dryer, in that, if the surface of the drum dryer is able to prevent wet paper from sticking to it, it aids in preventing "picking" and paper breaks as cited in the present specification on page 2, numbers 4 (lines 26-27) and 6 (lines 30-31). This fact, in combination with the statement set forth above with respect to the oil stains on the paper strip in Comparative Example 3, indicates that the present invention is intended to prevent contamination of the drum dryer surface while not decreasing the quality of the paper produced due to oil stains. Therefore, it is clear that the present invention is also concerned with the prevention of soiling or contamination of the web.

Still further, the Examiner asserts that "[t]ransferring oil from the dryer drum to the paper is no different from spraying some of the emulsified oil onto the web" citing page 5, lines 23-24 of the present specification. Applicants strongly disagree with the Examiner's assertion because a critical difference between the present invention and the subject matter described in Donnelly is the point of application of the surface treatment agent. Secondly transferring a small amount of surface treatment agent from the surface of the drum dryer to the paper strip as in the present invention is very different than direct application of a release agent to the web as in Donnelly.

Donnelly discloses the use of a release agent only in conjunction with the web, because the web adheres to the drying cylinder with some degree of adhesion, and hence, the release agent is applied to the web to control or reduce its level of adhesion. In fact, in column 6, lines 34-49, Donnelly describes the application of the release agent, wherein it states "[t]he pressure applied at the nip by the press roll 19 spreads and distributes the release agent evenly in the web. It is an important part of

the [Donnelly] invention that the release agent be uniformly distributed in the web so that it is present uniformly on the surface of the web as well." (Emphasis added). Moreover, Donnelly discloses the purpose of applying the release agent to the web, in column 7, lines 7-14, where the release agent lubricates the fiber structure of the formed tissue web, so that the fibers slide over one another more easily, or are partially plasticized so that the web can be stretched to a greater extent without rupturing, wherein the release agent changes the properties of the web, and the fibers of the web are partially plasticized. Therefore, Donnelly explicitly indicates that the application of the release agent directly to the surface of the web and its migration into the web are key features to the invention, as claimed in both claims 1 and 2. Donnelly, at no point, indicates that the release agent should be directly applied to the drum dryer surface. The application of any release agent to the dryer surface in Donnelly, as was previously noted, is simply incidental, and application directly to the dryer surface or into the nip is neither taught nor suggested by Donnelly. Moreover, in claims 1 and 2, Donnelly explicitly states that a specific step in its process is "applying to the formed tissue web before drying a fluid containing a release agent. " Therefore, according to Donnelly's claims, the release agent must be applied to the tissue web.

In direct contrast to Donnelly, the present invention eliminates and teaches away from such a step because the present invention desires to maintain the quality of the paper and avoid its contamination, as noted above. In the present invention the emulsified oil is neither sprayed onto the paper or web nor onto the nip where it would influence the paper or web. In accordance with the present invention, the surface treatment agent should not be directly sprayed onto the paper strip. If the surface treatment agent is directly sprayed onto the paper strip, oil staining is produced on the paper, which causes the deterioration of the paper strip. According to the method described by Donnelly shown in Figure 2, the surface treatment agent is certainly sprayed onto the paper strip, resulting in the production of oil stains causing the deterioration of the paper strip.

The present invention utilizes a surface treatment prepared by emulsifying oil by the agency of a surfactant that is continuously supplied to the surface of the drum dryer, and thus the present invention does not apply any of the emulsifying oil to the

paper strip. The release agent is applied directly to the dryer surface, an important aspect of the present invention that is set forth in both amended claims 1 and 4. Therefore, since the oil is not directly applied to the paper, the paper does not become contaminated. Moreover, since a very small amount of oil is used for application to the drum dryer surface, if any oil applied to a surface of the drum dryer were secondarily transferred to the paper strip, its slight amount would not contaminate the paper strip.

Thus, Donnelly teaches a significantly different process and teaches away from the present invention. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not find any teaching or suggestion in Donnelly that would result in the present invention.

In addition, Applicants respond that claims 5 and 6 depend from a claim that Applicants believe to be patentable, and therefore, claims 5 and 6 would likewise be patentable.

Applicants believe that the cited reference neither anticipates the Applicants' claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) nor renders the present invention obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). It is respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

### SUMMARY

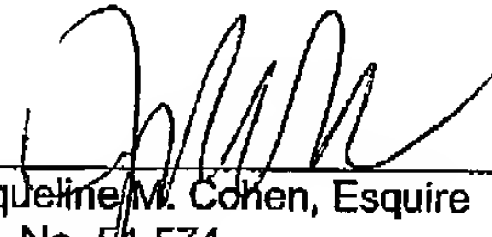
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot and that a complete response has been made to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 4, 2003 and the communication mailed September 9, 2003. Applicants believe that the application stands in condition for allowance with withdrawal of all grounds of rejection. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has questions regarding the application or the contents of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below.

The Applicants believe that no fee is due in accordance with this response to the communication mailed September 9, 2003, however should a fee be due that is unaccounted for, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 501447 (Potter Anderson and Corroon LLP). Furthermore, if any extensions of time are necessary

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Attorney Docket: 24555

to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 501447.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Jacqueline M. Cohen, Esquire  
Reg. No. 51,574  
Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP  
PO Box 951  
Wilmington, DE 19802  
Attorney for Applicants  
Telephone: (302) 984-6089  
Facsimile: (302) 658-1192

Date: 10-9-03  
594390v2

The Stamp of the Patent Office hereon acknowledges the receipt, on the date indicated, of the following:

Case No. 09/806,020 <-> Application No. 24539

Inventor(s): Kenio Sekiya  
Title: Pollution Control Method for Cylindrical...

☐ Application ☐ ADS

Pages of Spec. \_\_\_\_\_ (incl. Abstract & Claims)

Pages of Claims: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Utility ☐ CIP ☐ RCE/CPA ☐ Div.

☐ Provisional ☐ Provisional Coversheet

☐ Declaration ☐ Power of Attorney

☐ Assignment

☐ Drawings \_\_\_\_\_ sheets ☐ Formal

☐ IDS ☐ Supplemental

Attorney: Thm (jmc)

☐ Request for Extension of Time

☒ Amendment ☐ Preliminary

Response to:

☒ Office Action

☐ Notice to file Missing Parts

☐ Issue Fee

☒ Other transmitted

☐ Fee Transmittal Sheet

☒ COM ☐ Express \_\_\_\_\_